

DAILY FLIGHTS
Elath ARKIA
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26, 1953

THE JERUSALEM POST

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Column One BY David Courtney

CHALL. It is a round table or a square one? Mr. Lodge wants it round. Mr. Rhee will get up and leave the table, round or square, if Mr. Nehru is in the place; and if Russia is there it will only be because the "other side," who are impossible people anyway, insisted on bringing her; so, at any rate, if Mr. Lodge gets his way, Haiti and the Dominican Republic have agreed to stand staunchly by America's side on these questions of whether the table shall be round or square, India there or not, and Russia invited as a UN member, that is, whether Russia was an enemy, a belligerent; and whether in fact the political conference shall be a peace conference or a people's court to try the accused — North Korea and China, with Russia dragged in as "friend of the accused."

WITH questions of procedure blown up to the rank of principle it is hard to know where principle itself will end up. It is all very untidy and slightly ridiculous. It is questionable whether the prestige of the Western Democracies and the leadership of the United States are not the worse for it. It almost justifies the "Christian Science Monitor's" sad comment, quoted by the "Economist," that there is a "widespread, almost universal, really appalling decline of confidence in American leadership," of Western leadership in general if we consider the matter as it directly affects Asia, including India.

WHATEVER the procedural outcome, a good deal of damage will have been done at any rate to the Western Alliance, specifically to the Anglo-American pillars of that alliance. The embarrassment of the U.S. delegation to the General Assembly as it goes about scraping up Latin-American votes to prevent a two-thirds majority for the resolution inviting India to the Korean peace talks, is something more than embarrassment for the time it passes through newspaper comment and Senatorial pronouncement to the public mind. A mood is being formed to which the Administration must move to pay homage for a long time, and although a majority of UN members feel as Britain does on the subject of the peace conference, it is against Britain that the American mood of anger and bitterness is directed. If Mr. Malenkov wanted nothing better he could not better have brought it about.

SENATOR McCarthy may be an extreme of the mood, but he is more representative of American public opinion on this subject than on many others. Addressing the annual convention of the Marine Corps League last Thursday (when he received the League's annual award for distinguished service to the United States) he made it plain what he and many other Americans think of Britain as an ally. He accused her of "licking the boots of the enemy" and giving him the weapons of war, which have been "killing the sons of Britain as well as the sons of America," so that the time may well come when America, in the late Senator Taft's words, will have to go it alone. "We do not want allies who cringe and surrender in the face of a enemy threat."

IT is heated talk. It doesn't help to decide whether the table shall be round or square. But there is always the hope that it is frustrated talk; the frustrated talk of those who grow fat on trouble and at the first sign of peace grow nervous and thin, like the New York Stock Exchange, which in a portentous day has just lost weight to the extent of 100 million dollars. For in the long run, peace is really the issue, not the shape of the table, and it looks as if enough countries really want peace in Korea and the world to see that they get it.

Jerusalem, August 26.

Russia Wants Egypt, Syria at Parley

UNITED NATIONS, Tuesday. — Russian delegate Andrei Vishinsky today suggested four more names to the post-truce political conference on Korea — Indonesia, Syria, Egypt and Mexico. He also substituted Czechoslovakia for Sweden in his list of members.

The 15 he now proposes are the U.S., Britain, France, the Soviet Union, Communist China, India, Poland, Czechoslovakia, North Korea, South Korea, Indonesia, Mexico, Syria, Egypt and Burma.

He again opposed in the Political Committee American objections to the inclusion of India in the conference.

By barring non-belligerents, the U.S. was proposing automatically to leave out 44 other members of the U.N., "under whose flag the U.S. has professed to have conducted the war," M. Vishinsky declared.

Membership of India in the conference, proposed by Britain, Canada, Australia and New Zealand, has become the most serious point of difference in the Western Powers' approach to the meeting.

The Commonwealth group also favour turning the conference into a general round table meeting to discuss issues wider than a Korean settlement. America insisted that the conference be between the two groups of protagonists on the single aspect of enforcing the peace.

Private Negotiations

Sir Percy Spender, Australia, appealed for private negotiations between India and the U.S. to resolve the situation in order to prevent a rift between the Western powers and to speed a general settlement.

Burmese delegate James Barrington said that to deny India a seat at the conference would be "to surrender to Dr. Rhee" and "an affront to the dignity and authority" of the U.N.

Israeli delegate Khalidi said that he was unable to understand how a conference aiming at peace in Asia could succeed without the help of an Asian power like India.

Mr. Leslie Monroe, New Zealand, stated that it was "only because of fears of (South) Korea objections that certain delegations have decided to oppose Indian participation."

He added that he strongly opposed India's suggestion that further discussion in the General Assembly must take place before arrangements for the political settlement could proceed.

Mexico Uncertain

Sgt. Rafael de la Colina, of Mexico, one of the Latin American group on whom the U.S. is depending to prevent a two-thirds majority for including India, took no firm stand. However, he questioned whether it would be proper for a group which had previously deplored the use of the veto to employ it now against the participation of any UN member in the conference.

The Colombian delegate felt that "special circumstances" made it necessary for his country to vote against India. South Korean opposition.

Syrian delegate Farid Zeln-e-Din said that the armistice agent his country had signed with Israel under American pressure, "proved that an extended armistice was most undesirable. Its only redeeming feature was that it stopped the fighting."

Ethiopia and Mexico also supported India's participation in today's debate. (Reuter, UP)

1,600 ALLIED POW'S DIED IN CAPTIVITY

TOKYO, Tuesday (UP). — Peking Radio said today that the Communists had formally advised the U.N. that 1,601 Allied prisoners had died in captivity, including 1,000 "non-Koreans."

The exchange of war prisoners will enter its fourth week today, marked by a Communist announcement that 400 Allied prisoners have refused repatriation.

Another 200 U.N. prisoners were due for release today, including 250 South Koreans, 133 Americans and 17 British. The first three weeks of "Operation Big Switch" saw 8,000 prisoners freed by the Communists.

The Allies will free about 2,400 Communists today.

Formosans Capture Burmese State

RANGOON, Tuesday (Reuter). — Chinese Nationalist guerrillas have seized Kengtung Principality within the territory of Mong Nawng, a Princedom in the Southern Shan states of Burma, it was reported here yesterday.

The local ruler was captured, the reports added.

80 Kg. Turtle Caught; Bigger One Got Away

Jerusalem Post Reporter

NAHARIYA, Tuesday. — A large turtle, weighing over 80 kilograms and measuring 1.5 metres from head to tail, was caught on the beach near Gush Etzion, north of here, last night, by Bin Harod children camping in the vicinity.

A group of 30 children were seen on night outing, spotted the giant turtle on the beach at 11 p.m., at a distance of 50 metres from the sea. They attempted to catch it, but the reptile ran into the water.

A few moments later, they spotted a second turtle. The children approached and over-turned the turtle, rendering him helpless.

Filled with excitement a number of them hurried to their camp and returned with a truck. The "catch" was loaded aboard, taken to the camp and installed in the wash house.

The turtle is of a very brown colour and is believed to be extremely old. It will be taken to Bin Harod, where a pool is to be built for it. Today, examining their arms in special fishermen's posture, the children nostalgically described "the one that got away."

YUGOSLAVIA DENIES MOVE TO JERUSALEM

LONDON, Tuesday (UP). — Yugoslavia today officially denied that her Legation in Tel Aviv is to be transferred to Jerusalem, the official news agency Tanjug reported.

In a broadcast monitored here, Tanjug said that the Yugoslav Legation in Tel Aviv had informed the Israeli Government that reports that the change was to be made appearing in certain Israeli newspapers were untrue.

Iran Oil Offer To Lapse, No Move For U.K. Talks

TEHERAN, Tuesday. — General Fazlollah Zahedi, new Persian Premier, said today that his Government would not renew the offer of the sale of Iran's nationalized oil at half the world market price.

A Japanese tanker which arrived at Abadan a few days ago sailed today with a full cargo of refined oil. An Italian tanker is expected to sail today.

He told reporters yesterday that his country would continue the negotiations with Russia which Khomeini had started. The negotiations concern the clearing up of frontier problems, financial questions and other outstanding differences. He re-emphasized that his Government would "go slow" in re-establishing diplomatic relations with Russia.

"The matter needs more study. Until these investigations are carried out, no decision will be taken," he commented.

Relations between British and Persians here are still strained. British correspondents who entered Teheran on Sunday after the Shah's return were ordered to be out of the country within three days.

Tudeh Pamphlets

The outlawed pro-Communist Tudeh Party today covered the city's streets with pamphlets denouncing the "royalist coup" which overcame Mossadegh.

Calling on the people to "rise against the Anglo-American Shah coup d'etat against the people," the Tudeh leaflets said that the "Anglo-American bayonet point" could be brushed aside through unity.

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French Railways Return to Normal

PARIS, Tuesday (Reuter). — French railways rapidly returned to normal tonight when the Communist-led General Confederation of Labour ordered its railway Union members back to work after 19 days of strike and dislocation.

The CFT and the numerous local strike committees which have been holding out in the provinces, appear to have been brought to heel by the Government assurance that no action would be taken against men returning to work by today, except in the case of those charged with violence or sabotage.

But this assurance, contained in the latest of a series of Government statements on sanctions, has caused some uncertainty among the postal workers.

It was coupled with a declaration that priority would be given to prosecuting men in reasonable positions who ignored the Government's requisition orders to return to work. The Christian Postal Federation trade union today threatened to bring out postal workers again if this question was not quickly settled.

Confusion in the postal service was still considerable. Most provincial centres had returned to normal, but between 30% and 60% of the workers in the various Paris Departments were still out.

Jewish Bank Case Sentences Attacked

FRANKFURT, Tuesday (Reuter). — The Independent right-wing "Neue Presse" said today that "a native observer of German justice must get the impression that the sentences passed here yesterday on officials of the Jewish Restitution Bank were rather severe compared with sentences on murderers and robbers."

Three leading officials of the Bank were given prison sentences ranging from eight to 18 months for the illegal transfer of money abroad.

The indictment claimed that three leading stockholders had been chiefly responsible. The men, Siegmund Morgenbesser, Leopold Dietner and James Wachsmann, had left for Israel before the trial.

"Neue Presse" said that "one could not avoid asking if the judge who presided, and who had been arrested as a Nazi in 1945, was the right man to conduct such a trial."

All the accused have lodged notices of appeal.

Hussein to London For Operation

KING Hussein of Jordan is to leave for London next week for a sinus operation, it was announced in Amman yesterday, according to NEAHS.

Queen Mother Zein will accompany her son as far as Switzerland where she will undergo treatment for pleurisy. On their way they will visit King Talal in Lebanon, where he is convalescing after his recent car accident in Egypt.

Hussein expects to be away from Jordan for one month.

Twin Bills To Go To Knesset Tomorrow

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The controversial Marriage and Divorce Bill, and the National Service Bill, are expected to come before the Knesset tomorrow after the Cabinet at an extraordinary meeting yesterday reached a compromise on the contents of the Bill.

A husband refusing to comply with a Rabbinical Court ruling to divorce his wife would be held in prison until he agreed to comply. There would be no question of "contempt of court," as previously suggested, since some Cabinet members had accepted the argument of Minister of Justice P. Rutenberg that a sanction of this nature would imply official recognition of rabbinical jurisdiction.

The final draft of the Marriage and Divorce Bill, however, stipulates that all marriages and divorces in which Jews are involved would be effected according to rabbinic rulings. The religious parties agreed to waive their request for a clause that would give Rabbinical Courts the authority to investigate the legality of marriages contracted outside Israel.

The Minister for Religious Affairs is expected to state in the Knesset that the "purity tests" submitted to women applying for a marriage licence would be discontinued.

It is understood that Mr. Rosen objected even to the amendment of the Bill. If the Knesset did not pass the Bill, the Rabbinate would be forced to introduce religious reforms he thought. Mapai circles, however, doubted that the Rabbinate could be induced to make such a concession regarding their contributions to regular taxes and the need to support the State of Israel as a permanent factor in the Jewish community and social pressure abroad had reached such a state that shirkers found it impossible to resist it.

State To Be Partner Of Palestine Electric

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The IL-175m. Development Budget was adopted by the Knesset yesterday although all Opposition parties voted against it.

Revenue is estimated at IL.145m. and another IL.30m. will come from funds left over from last year's Development Budget.

It was discussed by Mr. L. Guri, Finance Committee Chairman, and confirmed by Finance Minister L. Eshkol that the Government has entered into a 50-50 partnership with the Palestine Electric Corporation. Mr. Eshkol said that the Corporation had suggested last year transferring the company to the Government, but the Government was not prepared to accept it.

The Government, Mr. Eshkol said, was interested in foreign investments for the funds at the Government's disposal were not sufficient for rapid development of the country.

The Knesset also adopted a Bill fixing the municipal elections throughout the country for the day on which the general elections are held.

Mr. L. Guri, Minister of the Interior, Mr. L. Roshach, said a new electoral bill was in preparation and would be brought to the Knesset shortly.

Other Bills, adopted by the Knesset yesterday, included an amendment raising exit visa fees from IL.1 to IL.5; an amendment extending for one year the authority accorded to the Minister of Defence to free some recruits from agricultural training, provided for in the Military Service Law; and an imposition of excise duty on locally-produced Portland cement and tyres intended for the local market.

The House also passed the first reading of the Explosives Law, regulating the production and use of explosives.

More Quakes in Greece

LONDON, Tuesday. — The Admiralty received word today that two new heavy tremors had rocked the earthquake-battered Ionian Islands of Greece. News of the new shocks came from the British Navy depot ship engaged in emergency relief work on the islands.

But it is reported from Athens that no new shocks were recorded on the seismograph, the first shock-free day since August 9.

President Greets Ranking Officers

Jerusalem Post Reporter

High-ranking officers of the armed forces were introduced to the President and Mrs. Ben-Zvi at an informal garden reception held yesterday afternoon on the panoramic terraces in the Kirya area in Jerusalem.

The officers and their ladies were also greeted by the Acting Minister of Defence, Mr. Pinhas Lavon, and the Director-General of the Defence Ministry, Mr. Shimon Peres. The informal gathering gave the President an opportunity to renew old acquaintances and to meet other officers for the first time.

The Foreign Minister, Mr. M. Sharet, the Director General of the Prime Minister's Office, Mr. T. Kollek, the Secretary to the Government, Mr. Z. Sharet, the Jerusalem District Representative, Dr. A. Biran and the commander of the Jerusalem District Police, Mr. L. Abrahami, attended.

Committee Asks Citrus Decontrol

The Economic and Finance Committees, meeting here today, have recommended the decontrol of the price of citrus fruit meant for local consumption.

The Citrus Control Board, it was stated, should receive enough foreign currency to buy raw materials for packing and for fertilizers.

Prison Terms Up to 12 Years Passed on 13 Terrorists

Leaders Active in Stern Group

By VICTOR SEGEV, Jerusalem Post Reporter

SARAFAND, Tuesday. — All convicted members of the nameless terrorist organization, the most important of whom were active in the Stern Group, were today sentenced to terms of imprisonment ranging from one to 12 years.

"The State of Israel, five years after its establishment, cannot allow a terrorist group to operate in its midst, defy its laws, and bomb buildings, persisting in habits some of its members acquired before the creation of the State," the Judge said before passing sentence.

He also stated that it was the duty of the Court to deter any repetition of acts like those perpetrated by the organization. "The Court did not overlook the fact that the acts had not been committed for selfish reasons," the Judge said, adding that it should be clear that the defendants had not been charged for their political beliefs.

"The Court has decided that the organization, of which the accused were members and in which some were active, constituted a dangerous terrorist group both because of the acts of violence which had already been committed and because of the preparations made for future acts of violence," Aluf-Mishne Halevi stated.

He recommended that all the prisoners be afforded special treatment while serving their sentences.

In sentencing Bechar (who was given two additional years for being a Jew) and Heruti, the Judge said that they were the most dangerous. One of all had held central positions in the organization. Bechar had been most active in spying on the Army and State Security offices.

He added that the Attorney-General while the case was on, had stood against him. The Court would be lenient with Heruti as he was married and had a child.

Of Blumenthal the Judge stated that he had been responsible for the Jerusalem branch of the organization, and together with Mizrahi had been charged with an arms cache there.

Mizrahi had stated yesterday that he would escape from prison. The Judges considered that he was dangerous.

Dromi was an adult and was responsible for her deeds (she is 24), and her activities as an instructor in the organization could have inspired many young people to break the laws of the State; but the Court had decided to be lenient in view of her sex, the Judge said.

Ze'ev Radian was the most intelligent of the group, and had been close to Heruti and Bechar. Avraham Mendel had transmitted secret military information while on active service.

Turning to the younger accused (aged 16 and 17), the Judge repeats that the Court could not accept the defence plea that their acts in the organization were pranks. Their participation in the bombing of Legations in spying and arson, were acts too serious not to call for prison sentences.

Sharabi, the Judge averred, did not repent, and the Judge did not believe the statement he had made yesterday that he was sorry, after he had expressed contempt for the Government earlier in the trial.

Planned Army Theft

Yeruf Tzadik, the only soldier on active service among the group, had planned the theft of arms from the Army. His request to be held in a civil prison was granted.

As for Magori-Cohen, Pappouchado and Malayiv, the Judge said that though they had done least in the organization, the gravity of its acts demanded their imprisonment.

The Attorney General had recommended that Magori-Cohen and Malayiv be remanded in custody of a probation officer, suggesting that the Court consider the wisdom of imprisoning the 17-year-old girl and the 16-year-old boy.

The Sentences

The sentences imposed on the 13 convicted terrorists were as follows:

Name	Sentence
Yakov Heruti	12 years
Yakov Blumenthal	10 years
Yeheskiel Mizrahi	8 years
Shimon Bechar	7 years
Ze'ev Radian	6 years
Avraham Mendel	5 years
Yeshayahu Sharabi	4 years
Yeruf Tzadik	3 years
Yehoshafat Givon	2 years
Zila Magori-Cohen	1 year
Malika Pappouchado	1 year
Elihu Malayiv	1 year

Arab C-in-C's Plan To Use 'Secret Weapon'

At the first meeting of Commanders-in-Chief of Arab Legion member states held at the Egyptian Staff College at Abasia, yesterday, a new item put on the agenda as announced by Ramallah Radio quoting AXA, was "the practicability of developing for Arab armies the secret weapon recently invented by the Egyptians."

In opening the public session of the conference, Egyptian Vice Premier Gamal Abdul Nasser said that the Arab collective security pact "was the direct result of our bitter experiences during the Palestine war."

In a memorandum presented to the conference, a committee of Palestine refugees in Nablus asked the Commanders, "to meet Jewish acts of aggression by equal aggression; to give military training and adequate arms to all the refugees and to unify Jerusalem and make it the headquarters of a unified Arab Command."

The only Arab C-in-C not present is General John Glubb, Commander of the Arab Legion, who is to leave in England.

Bennike to Return At End of Month

General Vagn Bennike, Chief of Staff of the UN Truce Supervision Organization, is to return to Jerusalem at the end of the month, according to a report yesterday in "Al-Difa", the Old City daily, from the paper's UN correspondent.

In New York, General Bennike visited the Israel Consulate where he attended a reception. He established contact with delegations from the four Arab countries having Armistice Agreements with Israel.

With the U.N. Secretary-General, Mr. Dag Hammarskjöld, General Bennike discussed increasing the number of UN Truce Supervision Organization observers by six.

At a luncheon given by these delegations in honour of the General, at which Mr. Hammarskjöld was present, the Chief of Staff said that he had concentrated his main efforts on the Israel-Jordan Armistice Line and had not yet had time to study the other three Lines.

The Arab delegates said they were favourably impressed by the General's "iron will" and his determination to be fair and objective.

Israel Diplomats Discuss Relations with West

PARIS, Tuesday (INA). — Relations between Israel and a "certain Western power" were discussed at a meeting here today between Israeli diplomatic representatives in West Europe, a spokesman of the Israeli Embassy here has announced.

Relations with the Arab States were also discussed.

Ambassador to the U.S. and chief UN delegate Abba Eban chaired the meeting which was attended by Ambassador to Britain Eliahu Elath; Minister to Italy Eliahu Sasson; Charge d'Affaires in France Shmuel Divon; and by Mr. Mordechai Kidron, Director of the Foreign Ministry's section for International Organizations and Mr. Gideon Rafael of the Foreign Ministry.

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TEL AVIV JERUSALEM HAIFA NATANYA

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SENTENCES were pronounced yesterday by a Military Court on the thirteen members of the terrorist organization found guilty of crimes ranging from association for illegal purposes to active participation in acts prejudicial to the safety and security of the State.

The leaders, who were given terms ranging from twelve to seven years, were men who even in Court showed no appreciation of the gravity of the offence with which they were charged and who questioned the very basis of the authority of the State.

The presiding judge, in pronouncing sentence, pointed out that the first duty of the court was to impose sentences designed to prevent the repetition of such acts. He went on to make it clear that the motives of the accused were not selfish ones but the result of aggravated political incitement. The men were tried for their political ideas but for actual participation in a terrorist organization. The State could not allow any group to set its laws at naught.

The trial has revealed an ugly situation. Here is a body of young people drawn from widely different sections of the community who already at an early age betray a complete lack of faith in democratic procedure and institutions, who have no loyalty to the State of Israel and its government and who despise no means, however violent or illegal, to encompass its overthrow. They comprise so-called religious elements who stem from the Natorei Karta section of the community and young men and women who claim allegiance to no religious faith, to no political ideology and who seem motivated purely by an attitude of negation of all positive accepted moral values. Having no positive principles they are thus able to find a common platform in violence.

One trembles to think what the result would be were they to succeed in bringing orderly government into disrepute. It is obvious that they would then proceed to the ruthless elimination of any who disagreed with them and would speedily begin to drag down the working elements of the country in order to achieve some sort of continued economic life.

This, of course, is Fascism, in its worst form. It is a mistake to suggest that these terrorists are a hangover from the days of the Mandate when resistance to the Administration was a patriotic duty. Historians will assess the true value of the unbridled violence of the gangs and organizations from whom these young hoodlums of today are said to draw their inspiration.

It would be a mistake, too, to assume that with the trial and sentences the terrorist movement has been brought to an end. The spirit of lawlessness is still rampant in too many quarters. The attitude of the Natorei Karta, must result in a continuous inflow of recruits to the terrorist organizations from their uncritical and ill-tutored youth. In the same way the threats uttered by ex-Eisel members on the floor of the Knesset in certain circumstances and the publicly announced determination to frustrate decisions democratically arrived at, are also an open incitement which will have to be carefully watched.

The only effective measure to prevent the spread of this movement must be a positive strengthening of public morale and an incessant drive to inculcate proper ideas of citizenship into the minds of the young. This must begin in the school at the earliest stages and continue throughout the secondary educational process and in the youth movements. It has also to be backed up positively by a vigilant watchfulness to ensure that in the process of government from the national level down to the smallest local council and public institution nothing is done to bring the dignity and authority of democratic government or public administration into disrepute.

South African Jewry's Garden City NEW ASCALON BY THE SEA

Jerusalem Post Reporter

ASCALON. — "THERE is nothing new about town-planning in Israel. Tel Aviv was marked down as a garden city and Nahalal as the last word in rural settlement. Today Tel Aviv is anything but a garden city and some experts think that Nahalal is not the perfect model. So when Dr. Yehoshua Sonnabend, former professor of sociology at Witwatersrand University, South Africa, set about planning the perfect city here, he probably had that encouraging feeling known to all people who begin something that no one has ever done well before. Only one fifth of Greater Ascalon to be built has been alive, so far, and it has been accompanied by several serious problems, not all of which have been solved. But even the casual visitor, like this reporter, must go away impressed with what has been done.

Ascalon consists at present of 48 residential units, of which about four-fifths are already occupied and about four dozen ready for occupation, and 35,000 dunams of land which entirely surround the town of Migdal, once Arab, now Jewish. This large tract of land was put at the disposal of the Ascalon Company, a non-profit making concern, which to all intents and purposes is an agency of the South African Jewish Appeal. The Managing Director of Ascalon is Dr. Sonnabend, who is also chairman of the Local Council. For the time being Migdal is administered separately, but it has its place in the Ascalon plan.

Over 10,000. Briefly the intention which lies at the heart of the Ascalon plan is to combine the benefits of the small town on the one hand and the city on the other. The town is to be a nucleus of community and familiarity with one's neighbours as it is, said, but in the modern world only the city can provide certain amenities (like the theatre) and some of the requirements for a healthy economic life (like good communications with the rest of the country). Hence the concept of the satellite town, a unit of about 10,000 residents, with its own community and shopping centre, but connected to a much larger centre of some kind.

Greater Ascalon is designed as a group of five such satellite towns. Each with its local centre, but all together combining to form a city of some 50,000 inhabitants, large enough to enjoy the advantages of size. Present-day Ascalon is the nucleus of one of these units. Migdal, which the rebels is intended as another. A third will be situated near the Barnea Company's development site. The other two have similarly been allocated.

MUSICAL DIARY

EARLY this century it seemed as though opera was dying. The old favourites were drawing their regular public as usual, but new and far between, and the opera fans did not care for them. This came after a period of keen excitement particularly in pre-war Germany and Austria. However, a few masterpieces only had been produced, among them those that head the list of modern operas performed with ever-growing success today, Berg's "Wozzeck". But the last few years have seen a development in reverse. The public seems to have grown tired of the ever-repeated Tosca, Cavalleria, and La Bohème, and managers all over the world are trying modern opera, with mounting box-office success. This, in turn, inspires composers and their publishers to give more attention to opera. This year, almost all the leading composers of our day—and many younger men in addition—can trace their opera performed on stages in Europe and the Americas, while others are busily preparing new productions for the coming season.

Menotti
Among the great successes of the day is Igor Stravinsky's "The Rake's Progress," to W.H. Auden's and Chester Kallman's libretto. The latest theatre present work was the Paris Opera Comique (as "Le Libertin"), and this month the Glyndebourne Opera Company will give the first British performance at the Edinburgh Festival. It is hard indeed to justify the ecstatic and reminiscent style of this work, in which all well-known formulas and patterns from Puccini to Bellini are used with a certain effect and with frequent reminiscences of Stravinsky added here and there into the bargain. The opera attracts as an amazing feat of musical craftsmanship, but it is boring musically — yet the glory of its name and the piquant charm of the fable attracts the public.

Another world success is Gian Carlo Menotti's latest opera, the Christmas fable of "Amahl and the Night Visitors," written for the N.B.C. television programmes and conducted by Leopold Stokowski for the Florentine May Festival. As in all his other operas, Menotti excels by a clever mixture of sentimentality, drama, humour, and stage-effect without convincing the listener of the intrinsic musical value of his work. He is now working on a new opera, "The Saint of Blackford Street," to be premiered by the New York City Centre Opera next season.

Benjamin Britten's Coronation opera "Gloriana," to a libretto of William Plomer, was one of the most fabulously colourful operas

lotted areas on the 30,000 dunam tract. The first president of Ascalon moved in in June, 1962; now he is the editor of a local newspaper. This is the measure of the progress made. The terms under which families take possession of the pleasant looking houses that have been built are very attractive: they may be bought outright for IL4,500 or taken for a down payment of IL1,000 with a 12-year mortgage for the rest of the sum. This means of course that the Ascalon Company makes a loss on each settler, a loss which is made up by the South African Appeal. So far there has been no trouble finding families who wish to settle here, I was told.

Earning a Living
But of course the crucial question in such an enterprise is how these residents of Ascalon (first smaller, then Greater) are to earn their living. There were plans to build a port here. The Bay-side Land Corporation has laid out a factory site in the neighbourhood. Several light industries have been set up. None of these efforts have resulted in much, so far. There is one large-sized industrial undertaking here: the Yuval Galop factory. But Ascalon is essentially a middle-class affair (at least for the time being) and only a limited number of engineers, foremen and the like have found their way here. Then there are workers in the Migdal Municipality, tractor drivers (who rate as middle class, of course), people from the Government's experimental farms and other institutions.

Where are the remaining breadwinners of the 30,000 fa-

Readers' Letters

WAVE BREAKERS
Editor, The Jerusalem Post
Sir, The Ascalon plan is a good one. It might be reduced by the provision of calmer areas for bathing on the more popular beaches. A number of wave breakers placed 30-50 metres apart and extending well into the sea would achieve this end without unduly marring the view. The expenditure involved in the construction of hummocks of boulder and stones sealed with hardened asphalt would not be high, and has proved itself in similar circumstances in America.
Yours, etc.
M. BLOCK
Haifa, August 18.

BUSES
Editor, The Jerusalem Post
Sir, What a great deal of dissatisfaction is being caused by the bus company who are waiting for some time but doesn't bother to stop. This took place today when

PEN PALS WANTED

Ann Weinstein, 45 Park East, New Hyde Park, Long Island, N.Y. who is looking for a penfriend in Israel.
I am a stamp collector and I specialize in stamps of Israel. The expenditure involved in the construction of hummocks of boulder and stones sealed with hardened asphalt would not be high, and has proved itself in similar circumstances in America.

PETER GRADENWITZ
America
A TOTAL of 250,000 persons attended the 1963 season of the 1963 Lewisohn Stadium Concerts season on the campus of the College of the City of New York. The attendance was some 5,000 ahead of the 1962 figure.

The 1963 season's record attendance was on July 16 when the annual George Gershwin Concert, with Oscar Levant as soloist and Alexander Smallens conducting the Stadium Symphony Orchestra, drew 20,000 persons. Runners-up were the concert debut of Jose Greco and his company of Spanish dancers on July 21 which drew a crowd of 19,000. "Rodgers and Hammerstein's" "Cinderella" was the most popular attraction, drawing a crowd of 18,000.

Comic Opera
Francis Poulter's comic opera, "Les Mamelles de Tirésias" (with a libretto by Guillaume Apollinaire) had its American premiere at the second annual festival of Creative Arts at Brandeis University. The opera was preceded by a performance of Morton Gould's Concerto for Tap Dancer and Orchestra, with both choreography and solo performance by Danny Daniels. These works were performed in a single evening devoted exclusively to music of the festival, dedicated to "the comic spirit." As last year, it was under the general direction of Leonard Bernstein, who conducted the revived "Lemonade Opera."

The opening programme of the 36th season of N.Y. Stadium Concerts and the three following programmes were conducted by Leonard Bernstein, who returned to Lewisohn Stadium after five years' absence. The Teatro San Carlo of Naples presented as the last production of the season, Richard Strauss' "Die Frau ohne Schatten." The singers were mainly French, and the sets and costumes designed by Fernand Léger. At the appearance of the Vienna State Opera in Paris, Hilde Zadek scored a great success as Chrysothemis in Richard Strauss-Hofmannsthal's "Electra."

milies to earn their bread? This is perhaps the main question facing Dr. Sonnabend and his associates today. A partial answer has been found by forming a development company, the Ascalon Company, which will be parallel to Afridar and whose main purpose will be to assist and finance industrial and commercial entrepreneurs who decide to try their luck here.

Tourist Trade
One industry — the summer vacation industry — has already been started with considerable success. The beach is one of the finest in the country and between three and four thousand people come out here each Saturday to bathe. Ascalon can serve all the southern part of the country in this respect as it combines a fine beach with an excellent climate.

There is also a plan to base some of the plants which will be handling the products of Negrev mining here, rather than in the Beerseba area. It is not quite clear to this reporter why this should be done, since the cost of transporting raw materials is normally higher than that of finished products. But the Ascalon people are confident that the idea is a good one, and not only because such a development will further their plan.

So for the time being the position here in Ascalon is this: the first of the satellites is almost complete and more are on their way. There is every prospect of their being stocked with people. But the problem of providing them with a sun to bathe them with the nourishing rays they need for survival has yet to be solved.

I travelled from my village Kfar Yasif to the Acre-Safad road, and the first bus stop for the first bus came in time, and though I made the formal sign for a driver, he simply waved me off the road and continued at the normal speed leaving me to think about this monopolized road. The expenditure involved in the construction of hummocks of boulder and stones sealed with hardened asphalt would not be high, and has proved itself in similar circumstances in America.

NO UNNECESSARY QUEUING FOR DEPENDENTS
(To Kupat Holim Members)
Uninsured dependents of Kupat Holim members, as well as dependents with limited insurance, will not have to queue in future to pay for drugs. Payment for medicines like penicillin, streptomycin, etc. will now be included in the additional payment made for visit to the doctor.

The additional payment of 100 pruta for the visit to the doctor will not cover payment for hormones, aureomycin, chloromycetin, cortisone. In the event of continuous use due to chronic illness, like tuberculosis, sugar diabetes, etc., insured dependents, and parents will be required to pay for such drugs, as well as for streptomycin, insulin, penicillin, etc. Full particulars of these changes may be obtained at the branches of Kupat Holim. These changes will come into force on September 1, 1963.

Public Relations Dept.
Kupat Holim Centre
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Professor Picard, the famous Swiss-Belgian Physicist, accompanied by his son Jacques, makes his first descent into the sea at Castellmare de Stabia, near Naples, in his newly-designed bathysphere, the "Trieste". He hopes to reach a record depth of 13,000 feet, near the islands of Ponza to explore and photograph the sea bottom. Three dives of a few minutes each — to a depth of 40 ft., were made.

Thousands Leave Yugoslav 'Kolkhozes' Crisis and Reaction

By RICHARD LOWENTHAL

TO the outside world, the most striking symptom of a crisis in Yugoslav affairs this Spring was the fact that the decree of March 28, permitting peasants to leave or dissolve collective farms without waiting for the end of the legal three-year period, was followed within less than two months by another agrarian reform, of opposite direction: the law limiting private peasant holdings to 25 acres of arable land. When the Yugoslav peasants understood that they realized really free to leave the collective farms, the effect was revolutionary. In most parts of the country the kolkhozes had become for them a symbol of all they disliked in the regime and its local representatives — while to the village Communists it was the symbol of their faith, as well as the stronghold of their power.

Correspondents who toured the countryside near Zagreb at the beginning of April found the peasants celebrating their victory by day-long feasting, while the local Communists, in a state of confusion, were laughing-stock, were left feeling abandoned and embittered.

Bitter Shock
Bitter as was the shock administered by the peasants, the Government quickly realized that the most serious aspect of the situation was its effect on the Communist rank-and-file. In contrast to Hungary, the decree had been issued early enough for even a mass dissolution to proceed without serious danger to the harvest. Disorderly pillaging of collective property had not been too widespread, and could be brought under control in time if the organs of state power carried out their directives.

The answer came from an area of special conditions and from a province of Yugoslavia, the province of Vojvodina. On its fertile, irrigated plains, stretching North of Belgrade and the Danube towards the Hungarian frontier, large estates producing wheat and maize for the market had been common since the time of Hungarian rule, and a higher standard of efficiency than in most of the country had been maintained until 1945 by German colonists.

Here some of the collective farms had really proved the advantages of large-scale production.

Four Million Dunams
It was characteristic of the improvised nature of the scheme that, in great haste, the Government permitted the dissolution of the old collectives, different Communist leaders gave entirely different reasons for it. Its original sponsor, Jovan Vukobratovic, Party leader in the Vojvodina and Vice-President of the Serbian Republic, told me he expected the great economic benefits from it: the new collective farms on public land would be far more efficient than the old Soviet-type, and would be an essential instrument, with the help of a concentration of agricultural investments in Vojvodina, for quickly increasing high-grade agricultural exports and thus relieving Yugoslavia's currency shortage.

Yet while he tried to give the impression of referring to non-party experts, he was, in fact, attacking the arguments of Cro-

atia's Prime Minister Vladimir Bakarić, as well as those of some of the Slovene Communist leaders and even of the Federation of Serb Cooperatives, who had internally opposed his measure on the grounds that, far beyond the 90,000 peasants directly affected, it would undermine the political confidence and weaken the economic initiative of individual peasants in general.

Counter Reform
The decisive voice in favour of this counter-reform was that of the Yugoslav Vice-President, Edward Kardelj. This outstanding guardian of the doctrine of Yugoslav Communism based his decision on completely different grounds — the grounds of political necessity rather than economic advantage.

In the international field, disappointment with the development of relations with Socialist Parties and with the Socialist International, launched with much enthusiasm last autumn, was freely voiced by spokesmen of the Party and the National Front. Yet at no moment was the reaction allowed to affect the substance of the new economic policy; two days after the passing of the "maximum law" Marshal Tito himself, in the frankest statement ever made of the reasons for permitting dissolution of the collective farms, said that restoration of the peasants' freedom was necessary to assure their loyalty.

The third of a series of articles on Yugoslavia.

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Men and Things

A generation nurtured on the writings of the Sitwells, Compton-Burnett, Max Beerbohm and their like can be excused for believing that notable eccentricity is the hallmark of the civilized society. Leave the brutalities of reality and the practical to pioneer lands, they say in effect, refinement of manners leads to the true oddities. The broad line of a man's or a nation's life is composed of multitudes of tiny progressions in unsuspected directions. The minutiae of man's existence are the proper study of mankind. This mine of thought is being profitably explored by more than one sophisticated writer at the present time.

A writer on architecture, Robert Fumaux Jordan, has started in the "Observer" a series of articles on buildings whose interest lies in eccentric fantasy. The first of these deals with Fonthill Abbey, creation of an eccentric called Beckford. Beckford, to have a slightly higher than that of Salisbury Cathedral, which is 404 feet high. He did not achieve this, but in cold weather he had 60 fireplaces burning, and the cost, but, as Beckford had no use for foundations, little remains today but the pink granite sarcophagus of the man himself.

The day when we can scatter pink granite about the Negev, we shall surely have the space to base it properly, and may possibly avoid the effect of monotony that disfigures, for instance, the imitation Hindu palaces at Heliopolis. Pink granite, by the way, would look splendid in the Negev, where it would reflect the sun and take on a magical, luminous quality, and if all water-towers were so beautified, the landscape decoration could not be levelled at us, while we might achieve a tasteful eccentricity of the type commended by the apostles of decadence.

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